Dear John,

8/28/76

Much has happened since the last time you did not answer a letter. But I haven't changed much except that I've decided not to make a career of demolishing harpsichords. I've had infrequent subsequent experiences with the same causative agent only with less initial fatigue but regardless of the origin no equivalent inspiration come from it.

Probably more significant is an (or more than one) acute thrombophlebitis. Plus a few more years. I'm 63 now. Means I've had to slow down some. Didn't get up until 5:30 this morning. When I get so late a start naturally I can do less work than I used to. But I guess I do enough or I wouldn't be writing.

I've switched my emphasis to court. It has great advantages for me and for the government. For me it means I can and do get quite a load of former secrets. For the government it means a chance to bog me down and cut back on the writing and investigating I can do. On balance I'm ahead and they hate me more. I've sued them nine time, lost once, and it turned out to be my greatest victory. They were so corrupt in it that the Congress cited it as a reason for amending and strengthening the Freedom of Information Act. They don't dare give me that stuff, the evidence sought in that suit, so they took an new tack when I refiled the suit. I've just won a smashing victory in the appeals court. Among other things to actually told me what I must do and that it is in the Nation's interest that I do it. Without a word making the papers. I did not seek the attention and in fact at this juncture don't want it.

The state of the papers is really why I write. Even the scnadal sheets, like the Enquirer, shun the solid, no matter how sensational. In them there is nothing too nutty to be printable. While on some subjects the straight press will do an occasional expose, they tend not to antagonize their official sources. The net result is that what is exposed is only what the spooks want exposed so they can use the post-Watergate climate and the fear of doing anything that will create another scandal of that magnitude as a means of purging themselves and inuring everyone to everything. They'll be winding up with a law that entitles them to do all that has caused the scandals becuse there was no law permitting and there were laws phohibiting it. I hear from the major press with some frequency when they've off on something wild or irresponsible. Day before yesterday five of them, including WxPost and Anderson column. All quite crazy.

I keep going, without regular income and beginning with no nest egg, on the unpromoted but regular sales of my books. Means I have to mail them out, which takes time, but it also means that if sometimes with a limp I do keep going.

Two are almost out of print, one in. I'm about to reprint the third. I'm adding a bit of new material to it. From what I've heard of your better-paying, more sensation oriented papers maybe they'd go for it and perhaps other pieces. I've obtained some pretty hot CIA files. I suppose the only reason is that those who knew the meaning are no longer spooking, at least for officialdom. It means that the CIA knew there was a conspiracy to kill JFK before there was a Warren Commission and from evidence that from all the records they did not possess. And, obviously, did possess. It is not opinion stuff or unsubstantiated reports the outpouring of which flooded the Warren Commission. This is tangible evidence. (Separate from this and not as simple a piece is what should make a good story and I think a movie, a Strangelovian bit they were up to that I also have. It failed to start a war only by accident and provided the basis for scaring the body wastes back into LBJ. Believe me, I've got copies of what was fed him immediately.)

Now that I've obtained uncountable thousands of once secret records, so many I have more than 4,000 I've not had time to read, the truth turns out to be much more Byzantine than I'd dreamed. Not only on JFK, either. For me it means, in effect, starvation in the midst of plenty.

So, how about finding the time to send me a list of your more likely possibilities with their U.S. representatives, Washington and/or New York or if you believe it better, in London? I've taken a short break from intensive court work to start drafting this add to the book. Perhaps when I've finished it I'll see it differently but as of now I see it as the CIA knew there was a conspiracy to kill the President it didn't like and suppressed the proof. (It is a natural Ford scandal, toom if anyone likes that. He was incolved in covering that up and I have that proof, too.) Going along with this, while the Commission did not have this evidence it did suspect there had been a conspiracy. They had a TOP SECRET executive session to discuss it. They were terribly frightened. In the end they decided to take the advice of Allen Dulles, "I think this record should be destroyed." The stenotypists tape escaped the memory hole and after 10 years I

latch onto it.

Dulles steered them away from the CIA, to which from another record of theirs he was reporting regularly. Thus they figured that Hoover and the FBI alone were hiding the evidence of conspiracy from them. In describing their fears Dulles alone used the words, "Terrific" and "fantastic" to describe the consequences if they did not hide the possibility of a conspiracy. In another such transcript I've obtained they decide that when they have evidence of spook involvement in the assassination itself they have to "wipe it out." These are actual records I've obtained by use of this law, sometimes in court, sometimes the government's alternative to risking attention by me taking it to court. I've even obtained some of their handwritten notes on me, where one agency counsels another that if I don t get it I will go to court...If I seem to wander the material is that rich. Even hundreds of pages on how the spooks played with the mind. I've drafted a summary of a movie on this from actual records and sent it to a Hollywood friend. I've stuck to the diamond-hard in this but it is not unreasonable to interpret some of these records as reflecting effôrts to create Manchurian Candidates and to their using farout means to kill their own disenchanted....If you ever get over here and are too old and tired to drive from Washington, an hour, while with the impeded corculation in my legs I dongt drive that far, I can take the bus - and do go that way. (I can get up and walk around on the bus to keep the blood working.)...Some of the work Matt did in Memphis turns out to have been very significant. I've carried ti farthur. carried it farthur. Best regards, Harold Weisberg